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WASHINGTON

Chile Project (#S199900030)

U.S. Department of State

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Declassify: In Part ☐ In Full ☐

Exemption(s) ☐

MEMORANDUM

TO: ARA - Stephen W. Bosworth.

FROM: HA - Elliott Abrams SA

SUBJECT: Chile Certification

Attached is a press release from Freedom House regarding human rights violations in Chile. What is interesting about it is that it is entirely based on the report of the Chilean Human Rights Commission, whose views are accepted as reliable by Freedom House.

I bring this to your attention not in order to argue that these views are in fact reliable, but to demonstrate that those views will gain credence on the Hill and in the press.

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NEWS

FROM **FREEDOM HOUSE**

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*Freedom House is a non-partisan, national organization devoted to the strengthening of free societies
For additional information: Leonard R. Sussman (nights and week-ends call YU 8-5137)*

HUMAN-RIGHTS VIOLATIONS CONTINUE IN CHILE IN 1982

New York, February 19--Violations of human rights in Chile continued last month, according to the Chilean Commission on Human Rights, whose first report for 1982 has just been received by Freedom House.

The 19-page report indicates that political dissidents accused of activities forbidden under the state of emergency continue to be detained. There is a high rate of torture, and human-rights activists continue to be banished in Chile and expelled from the country. During the funeral of former President Eduardo Frei on January 25, 30 men and 3 women were arrested and severely beaten by members of the regular police and plainclothesmen of the CNI (secret service).

The report cites the following data:

Persons arrested for dissident activities:	124
Persons who have disappeared after detention:	1
Confirmed cases of torture:	12
Cases of internal banishment:	3
Persons expelled from the country:	5
Other forms of harassment:	3
Break-ins (into the office of the World University Service)	1
Persons killed during unconfirmed confrontations with Chilean authorities:	2

In addition to providing these and other statistics, the report contains a great deal of detailed information and the names of persons who were affected.

On January 7, 1982, the Commission also issued an 11-page report accompanied by a lengthy appendix, summarizing human-rights violations in Chile during 1981. The report cites 1,057 cases, only 10 percent of which were tried and sentenced by October, 1981. Following is a summary of the data contained in the report:

CHILEAN HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS -2-

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Persons arrested for dissident activities:	908
Confirmed cases of torture:	61
Cases of internal banishment:	60
Persons expelled from the country:	7
Other forms of harassment:	133
Persons killed during unconfirmed confrontations with Chilean authorities:	16

The Chilean Commission on Human Rights was founded in 1978 by Dr. Jaime Castillo, a prominent lawyer and former Minister of the Interior under President Eduardo Frei. On August 11, 1981, he and three other opposition leaders were expelled from Chile by the Pinochet government. Dr. Castillo now lives in exile in Venezuela.

On December 10, 1981, Human Rights Day, three members of the Commission, German Molina, its national secretary, Augenio Diaz and Pablo Fuenzalida were arrested, after which Mr. Fuenzalida was tortured. Messrs. Molina and Fuenzalida are still under arrest but according to unconfirmed reports, Dr. Diaz has been released.

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Freedom House, in its fortieth year, monitors political rights and civil liberties around the world.

For further information, call: Ludmilla Thorne at (212) 730-7744.

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